

Triennial Review  
of the  
*Water Quality Control Plan*  
*for the*  
*North Coast Region*

Item 2

North Coast Region  
Water Quality Control Board  
February 7, 2007



# Triennial Review

- Legally mandated, periodic review of *water quality control plans* (Basin Plans) to ensure that changes in:
  - regulation,
  - technology,
  - policies and
  - physical changes in the Region are accurately reflected.



# Overview of Presentation

- Basin Plan Function and Objective
- Legal Requirements for Triennial Review
- Amendment Process
- Basin Plan Format
- Triennial Review Process
- 2004 Triennial Review Priorities
- Summary & Questions

# Basin Plan Function and Objective

- Basic purpose to determine future direction of water quality control protection in CA.
- Provides a definitive program of actions designed to preserve and enhance water quality and to protect the beneficial uses of water
- Comprehensive in nature
- Recognizes unique regional characteristics



# Legal Requirements for Triennial Review

- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
  - Periodic review of Basin Plan (§13240)
- Federal Clean Water Act
  - Review of water quality standards from time to time, but no less than every three years (§303(c)(1))

# Amendment Process

- Revisions to Basin Plan must be
  - Adopted by Regional Water Board,
  - Approved by SWRCB
  - Approved by OAL
  - U.S.EPA also must approve revisions to water quality standards.



# Basin Plan Format

- Introduction
- Beneficial Uses
- Water Quality Objectives
- Implementation Plans
- Statewide Plans and Policies
- Surveillance and Monitoring Activities
- Appendices

# Triennial Review Process

- Initial Staff Report (May)
  - Staff assessment of Basin Plan
  - Staff recommendations on priority list of issues
- Public Notice (May)
  - Notification of Board workshop
  - Opportunity to provide comment
- Public Input (January to June)
  - Regional Water Board workshop (June)
  - Solicitation of written comments



# Triennial Review Process (con't)

- Final Report (August 2007)
  - Summarizes and respond to public input
  - Presents Prioritized List of Issues
- Public Notice of Hearing
  - 45 days prior to Board meeting
  - Posting in several newspapers
  - Board agenda mail out
  - Email notification (Lyrus)
- Adoption Hearing (October 2007)
  - 2007-2010 Priorities List & Resolution

# 2004 Priority List

## 1. Regional Sediment Amendment

- Work in progress (April 2007)

## 2. Antidegradation Amendment

- Objective added to Basin Plan (October 2005)

## 3. Low Threat Discharge/Incidental Runoff

- Work in progress (Early 2008)



# 2004 Priority List (con't)

## 4. DO, Temperature and Cold Water Salmonid Habitat Objectives

- Regional amendment deferred
- Watershed specific objective(s) part of Klamath TMDL (late 2008)

## 5. Freshwater Bacteria Objectives

- Being addressed at state wide level

# 2004 Priority List (con't)

## 6. TMDL Implementation Strategies

- Salmon River (June 22, 2005)
- Scott River (September 8, 2006)
- Shasta River (January 26, 2007)
- Sediment TMDL watershed workplans (June 2007)
- Klamath TMDL (Late 2008)



# 2004 Priority List

## (con't)

### 7. WQ Based Effluent Limitations & Mixing Zones

- Work undertaken under contract funded by dischargers. Funding pulled. (Deferred)

### 8. Stream and Wetland System Protection Policy

- Regions 1 and 2 working cooperatively
- EPA granted funded
- Work in progress (June 2007)
- Compliance Schedule

# Summary of Process

- Initial Staff Report & recommendations
- Public comments on needed revision to Basin Plan
- Staff report & recommendations
- Board workshop
- Board hearing & adoption of 2007-2010 planning priorities